IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS EASTERN DIVISION

ALLYSON ALBRECHT, individually and as mother and best friend of RORY-MORRIS MARTIN ALBRECHT, a minor,)))
Plaintiff,) Case No.
v. KNOWLEDGE LEARNING CORPORATION, KNOWLEDGE LEARNING CENTERS, INC., KC DEVELOPMENT CORP., KINDERCARE REAL ESTATE L.L.C., KINDERCARE and MS. KATHERINE DOE,) FILED: JULY 10, 2008) 08CV3922) JUDGE KENDALL) MAGISTRATE JUDGE DENLOW) AEE)
Defendants.))

NOTICE OF REMOVAL

Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1441(a) and 1446(a), Defendants Knowledge Learning Corporation, KC Development L.L.C. (incorrectly named in Plaintiff's state-court Complaint as "KC Development Corp."), and Kindercare Real Estate L.L.C., hereby give notice of the removal of this action from the Circuit Court of Cook County, Illinois, to the United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois.

This Court has jurisdiction over this case because original jurisdiction is proper under 28 U.S.C. § 1332(a). In support of this Notice of Removal, Defendants Knowledge Learning Corporation, KC Development L.L.C. (incorrectly named in Plaintiff's state-court Complaint as "KC Development Corp.") and Kindercare Real Estate L.L.C. state as follows:

PLAINTIFF'S ALLEGATIONS

1. Plaintiff filed her state-court Complaint in the Circuit Court of Cook County, Illinois, County Department, Law Division, bearing the above-captioned title and the docket

number 2008-L-006119. (See state-court Complaint attached to this Notice of Removal as Exhibit 1).

- 2. Plaintiff's state-court Complaint alleges that Knowledge Learning Corporation, Knowledge Learning Centers, Inc., KC Development L.L.C. (incorrectly named as "KC Development Corp."), Kindercare Real Estate L.L.C. and Kindercare are the owners and/or operators of a business commonly known as the trade name "Kindercare," a child care facility located at 1050 Bonaventure Drive, Elk Grove Village, Cook County, Illinois. (Compl. at ¶ 1)
- 3. Plaintiff's state-court Complaint alleges that Knowledge Learning Corporation, Knowledge Learning Centers, Inc., KC Development L.L.C. (incorrectly named as "KC Development Corp."), Kindercare Real Estate L.L.C., and Kindercare owed a duty of care to Rory-Morris Martin Albrecht and acted negligently when one of their employees, named in the Complaint as "KATHERINE DOE," tipped over a chair at the Elk Grove Village facility that struck and injured the child. (Compl. ¶¶ 5-7) These alleged negligent acts caused Plaintiff alleged damages in excess of \$100,000. (Compl. Wherefore Clause)

THE COURT HAS JURISDICTION UNDER 28 U.S.C. § 1332(a)

- 4. A defendant may remove an action to this Court if it has original jurisdiction over the action. See 28 U.S.C. § 1441(a).
 - 5. This Court has original jurisdiction over this action under 28 U.S.C. § 1332(a):

The Parties Are of Diverse Citizenship

- 6. Plaintiff is a citizen of Illinois.
- 7. Defendant Knowledge Learning Corporation is incorporated under the laws of Delaware with its principal place of business in Portland, Oregon. So Knowledge Learning Corporation is a citizen of Delaware and Oregon. 28 U.S.C. § 1332(c)(1).

- 8. Defendant KC Development L.L.C. is incorrectly named in Plaintiff's state-court Complaint as "KC Development Corp." KC Development Corp. was converted from a corporation to a limited liability company on May 3, 2003. Defendant KC Development L.L.C. is a limited liability company organized under the laws of the State of Delaware. The sole member of KC Development L.L.C. is KinderCare Learning Centers, Inc., which is incorporated under the laws of Delaware with its principal place of business in Portland, Oregon. So KC Development L.L.C. is a citizen of Delaware and Oregon. Thomas v. Guardsmark, LLC, 487 F.3d 531, 534 (7th Cir. 2007) ("For diversity jurisdiction purposes, the citizenship of an LLC is the citizenship of each of its members).
- 9. Defendant KinderCare Real Estate L.L.C. is a limited liability company organized under the laws of the State of Delaware. The sole member of KinderCare Real Estate L.L.C. is KinderCare Learning Centers, Inc., which is incorporated under the laws of Delaware with its principal place of business in Portland, Oregon. So KinderCare Real estate L.L.C. is a citizen of Delaware and Oregon. Id.
- 10. The defendant named in Plaintiff's state-court Complaint as "Knowledge Learning Centers, Inc." is not an entity. However, there is a wholly owned subsidiary of defendant Knowledge Learning Corporation named "KinderCare Learning Centers, Inc.," which is incorporated under the laws of Delaware with its principal place of business in Portland, Oregon. So to the extent Plaintiff intends to bring suit against KinderCare Learning Centers. Inc., it is a citizen of Delaware and Oregon. 28 U.S.C. § 1332(c)(1).

- 11. The defendant named in Plaintiff's state-court Complaint as "KinderCare" is not an entity. So the non-entity "KinderCare" does not bear on the Court's original jurisdiction over this matter.
- 12. Defendant "KATHERINE DOE" is a defendant sued under a fictitious name. So for purposes of removal, the citizenship of "KATHERINE DOE" is to be disregarded. 28 U.S.C. § 1441(a).

The Amount in Controversy Exceeds \$75,000

13. Plaintiff alleges in her state-court Complaint that the Defendants negligently breached a duty of care to the minor child which resulted in damages in an amount "exceeding \$100,000." (Compl. Wherefore Clause)

THE STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS OF 28 U.S.C. § 1446 HAVE BEEN SATISFIED

- 14. Defendants Knowledge Learning Corporation, KC Development L.L.C. and Kindercare Real Estate L.L.C. were served with the Complaint no earlier than June 10, 2008. So this Notice of Removal is timely. 28 U.S.C. §1446(b).
- 15. Defendants Knowledge Learning Corporation, KC Development L.L.C. and Kindercare Real Estate L.L.C. are filing with this pleading a copy of the state-court Complaint and Summons served upon them in the state-court action. 28 U.S.C. § 1446(a). A copy of the state-court Complaint is attached as Exhibit 1 to this Notice of Removal. A copy of the Summons is attached as Exhibit 2 to this Notice of Removal.
- 16. Promptly after the filing of this Notice of Removal, Defendants Knowledge Learning Corporation, KC Development L.L.C. and Kindercare Real Estate L.L.C. will give written notice of this Notice of Removal to Plaintiff. 28 U.S.C. § 1446(d).

17. Promptly after the filing of this Notice of Removal, Defendants Knowledge Learning Corporation, KC Development L.L.C. and Kindercare Real Estate L.L.C. will file a copy of this Notice of Removal with the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Cook County Illinois, County Department, Law Division. 28 U.S.C. § 1446(d).

Dated: July 10, 2008

Respectfully submitted,

KNOWLEDGE LEARNING CORPORATION, KC DEVELOPMENT L.L.C., and KINDERCARE REAL ESTATE L.L.C.

/s/ Timothy L. Binetti
Todd A. Rowden
Timothy L. Binetti
THOMPSON COBURN LLP
55 East Monroe Street
Chicago, IL 60603
Tel: (312) 580-2327

LIST OF EXHIBITS

Exhibit 1 Complaint filed with the Circuit Court of Cook County,
Illinois, County Department, Law Division and served on Defendants Knowledge
Learning Corp., KC Development L.L.C. and Kindercare Real Estate L.L.C.

Exhibit 2 Summons filed with the Circuit Court of Cook County, Illinois, County Department, Law Division and served on Defendants Knowledge Learning Corp., KC Development L.L.C. and Kindercare Real Estate L.L.C.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that, pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 5(a), a copy of the **Notice of Removal** was served by deposit into the United States Mail, first-class, postage pre-paid upon the following on July 10, 2008:

Joseph G. Klest 1701 E. Woodfield Road, Suite 909 Schaumburg, IL 60173 (847) 969-9510 (phone)

/s/ Timothy L. Binetti

EXHIBIT 1

STATE OF ILLINOIS)		
COUNTY OF COOK)	F 1	
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT	FOF COOK COUNTY	, ILLINOIS	į
LAV	V DIVISION	Nislon Back	>
ALLYSON ALBRECHT, individually and as mother and best friend of RORY-MORRIS MARTIN ALBRECHT, a minor,))))	COURT	
Plaintiff,) }	:	
VS. KNOWLEDGE LEARNING CORP, KNOWLEDGE LEARNING CENTERS, INC, KC DEVELOPMENT CORP., KINDERCARE REAL ESTATE LLC., KINDERCARE AND MS. KATHERINE DOE)) No.)))	2008L006119 CALEMDAR/RODM X TIME CO:00 PI Other	
) Defendants.)) !		

COMPLAINT

NOW COMES the Plaintiff, ALLYSON ALBRECHT, individually and as mother and best friend of RORY-MORRIS MARTIN ALBRECHT, and in complaining of the Defendants, KNOWLEDGE LEARNING CORP, KNOWLEDGE LEARNING CENTERS, INC, KC DEVELOPMENT CORP., KINDERCARE REAL ESTATE LLC., KINDERCARE AND MS. KATHERINE DOE, states as follows:

COUNT I

- That at all times mentioned herein, one or more of the following Defendants 1. KNOWLEDGE LEARNING CORP, KNOWLEDGE LEARNING CENTERS, INC, KC DEVELOPMENT CORP., KINDERCARE REAL ESTATE LLC., and KINDERCARE, owned and or operated business commonly know as Kindercare a child care facility located at 1050 Bonaventure Drive, Elk Grove Village, IL.
- 2. That the Defendants have refused to disclose the full name of MS. KATHERINE _____ so she is identified as KATHERINE DOE.

- That on or about December 13, 2007 the minor Plaintiff, RORY-MORRIS 3. MARTIN ALBRECHT, was in the care of one or more of the following Defendants, KNOWLEDGE LEARNING CORP, KNOWLEDGE LEARNING CENTERS, INC, KC DEVELOPMENT CORP., KINDERCARE REAL ESTATE LLC., KINDERCARE and MS. KATHERINE DOE on the Kindercare premises located at 1050 Bonaventure Drive, Elk Grove Village, IL.
- That at all times mentioned MS. KATHERINE DOE was the employee and 4. agent of one or more of the Defendants, KNOWLEDGE LEARNING CORP, KNOWLEDGE LEARNING CENTERS, INC, KC DEVELOPMENT CORP., KINDERCARE REAL ESTATE LLC., KINDERCARE.
- That at the same time and place, Ms. Katherine Doe tripped and fell and 5. knocked a chair onto the minor, RORY-MORRIS MARTIN ALBRECHT injuring him.
- That the Defendants, KNOWLEDGE LEARNING CORP, KNOWLEDGE 6. LEARNING CENTERS, INC, KC DEVELOPMENT CORP., KINDERCARE REAL ESTATE LLC., KINDERCARE AND MS. KATHERINE DOE had a duty to use due care and caution for the minor Plaintiff.
- 7. That MS. KATHERINE DOE and/or other agents of one of the defendants was negligent in one or more of the following ways:
 - Tripped and fell knocking a chair over onto the Plaintiff's head. a)
 - b) Failed to seek immediate care for the Plaintiff and his injuries.
 - c) Failure to timely notify Allyson Albrecht of her sons injuries.
 - d) Were otherwise careless or negligent.

That as a direct and proximate result of the negligence of the defendants the minor Plaintiff, RORY, has suffered a seizure and, has incurred medical bills, and will incur medical bills in the future.

WHEREFORE, the Plaintiff, ALLYSON ALBRECHT, individually and as mother and best friend of RORY-MORRIS MARTIN ALBRECHT, a minor, demands judgment against one or more of the Defendants, KNOWLEDGE LEARNING CORP; KNOWLEDGE LEARNING CENTERS, INC.; KC DEVELOPMENT CORP. ;KINDERCARE REAL ESTATE LLC.; KINDERCARE AND MS. KATHERINE DOE in an amount sufficient to compensate for his injuries and medical bills in an amount in excess of One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000).

JOSEPH G. KLEST, Attorney for Plaintiff

JOSEPH G. KLEST 1701 E. Woodfield Road, Ste. 909 Schaumburg, IL 60173 (847) 969-9510 Attorney No. 50239

EXHIBIT 2

Case 1:08-cv-03922

Document 1 \$ 0000ZM Page 13 of 19

CT CORPORATION

A WoltersKluwer Company

Service of Process Transmittal

06/10/2008

Filed 07/10/2008

CT Log Number 513512113

TO:

RE:

John Sims, General Counsel Kindercare Learning Centers, Inc. 650 NE Holladay St., Suite 1400 Portland, OR 97232-

Process Served in Illinois

FOR: Knowledge Learning Corporation (Domestic State: DE) Received

JUN 12 2008

Legal

ENCLOSED ARE COPIES OF LEGAL PROCESS RECEIVED BY THE STATUTORY AGENT OF THE ABOVE COMPANY AS FOLLOWS:

TITLE OF ACTION:

Allyson Albrecht, individually and as mother and best friend of Rory-Morris Martin Albrecht, a minor, Pltf. vs. Knowledge Learning Corp., et al., Dfts.

Name discrepancy noted.

DOCUMENT(S) SERVED:

Summons (2 sets), Complaint, Service List (2 sets)

COURT/AGENCY:

Cook County Circuit Court - Cook County Department - Law Division, IL

Case # 2008 L 006119

NATURE OF ACTION:

Personal Injury - Slip/Trip and Fall - 12/13/2007 at 1050 Bonaventure Drive, Elk Grove Village IL - Seeking \$100,000.00

ON WHOM PROCESS WAS SERVED:

C T Corporation System, Chicago, IL

DATE AND HOUR OF SERVICE:

By Process Server on 06/10/2008 at 10:30

APPEARANCE OR ANSWER DUE:

Within 30 days, not counting the day of service

ATTORNEY(S) / SENDER(S):

Joseph G. Klest ≰ 1701 East Woodfield Road Suite 909

Schaumburg, IL 60173 847-969-9510

ACTION ITEMS:

SOP Papers with Transmittal, via Fed Ex 2 Day , 790523539690

Email Notification, Kelly Johnson kljohnson@klcorp.com Email Notification, Gena King gking@klcorp.com Email Notification, Tanya Conrad tconrad@klcorp.com

SIGNED: PER: ADDRESS: C T Corporation System

Tawana Carter

208 South LaSalle Street

Suite 814

TELEPHONE:

Chicago, IL 60604 312-345-4336

Page 1 of 1/DS

Information displayed on this transmittal is for CT Corporation's record keeping purposes only and is provided to the recipient for quick reference. This information does not constitute a legal opinion as to the nature of action, the amount of damages, the answer date, or any information contained in the documents themselves. Recipient is responsible for interpreting said documents and for taking appropriate action. Signatures on certified mail receipts confirm receipt of package only, not contents.

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	IN COUNT	THE CIR	CUIT COURT (TMENT, Law	OF COOK	COUNTY, ILI	LINOIS DIVISION
0	Name all parties)			•	•	
ALLYS	ON ALBRECHT, IND	IVIDUAI	LY & AS MOT	THER		
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			SUM	MONS		
To each D	Defendant:					
You hereto attained following	ached, or otherwise life) and req your appea	uired to file an arance, and pay t	answer to the require	o the complained fee, in the Of	nt in this case, a copy of which iffice of the Clerk of this Court at th
X	Richard J. Daley Cent	ter, 50 W. V	Vashington, Roon	n	, Ch	icago, Illinois 60602
	District 2 - Skokie 5600 Old Orchard Rd. Skokie, IL 60077		District 3 - Roll 2121 Euclid Rolling Meadov	ling Meado	ows 🔲	District 4 - Maywood 1500 Maybrook Ave. Maywood, IL 60153
	District 5 - Bridgeview 10220 S. 76th Ave. Bridgeview, IL 60455		District 6 - Mar 16501 S. Kedzie Markham, IL 6	Pkwy.	2	Child Support 28 North Clark St., Room 200 Chicago, Illinois 60602
JF YOU F.	file within 30 days after AIL TO DO SO, A JUI ED IN THE COMPL	DGMENT	this Summons, n BY DEFAULT	ot countin MAY BE	g the day of sei ENTERED AC	rvice. GAINST YOU FOR THE RELIEF
To the offic	cer:					
endorseme	is Summons must be a nt of service and fees, I so endorsed. This Sun	if any, im	mediately after	service.	If service can	m it was given for service, with not be made, this Summons shall date.
	50220			wit	NIPCC	

Atty. No.: 50239	WITNESS,	
Name: JOSEPH G. KLEST		
Atty. for: PLAINTIFFS		
Address: 1701 E. WOODFIELD ROAD, SUITE 909	Clerk of Court	
City/State/Zip: SCHAUMBURG, IL 60173	Date of service:	
Telephone: 847-969-9510	(To be inserted by officer on copy left with defendant or other person)	
Service by Facsimile Transmission will be accepted at:		

(Area Code) (Facsimile Telephone Number)

STATE OF ILLINOIS	
COUNTY OF COOK	;

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS LAW DIVISION

ALLYSON ALBRECHT, individually and as mother and best friend of RORY-MORRIS MARTIN ALBRECHT,)))
a minor,)
Plaintiff,)
vs.) No.
KNOWLEDGE LEARNING CORP,	<i>)</i>)
KNOWLEDGE LEARNING CENTERS.	<u>)</u>
INC, KC DEVELOPMENT CORP.,	Ś
KINDERCARE REAL ESTATE CORP.,	Ś
KINDERCARE REAL ESTATE LLC	,
KINDERCARE AND MS. KATHERINE	\ \
DOE)
Defendants.	· •

SERVICE LIST

KNOWLEDGE LEARNING CORP, c/o CT Corporation System 208 S. LaSalle Street, Suite 814 Chicago, IL 60604

KNOWLEDGE LEARNING CORP, Any Agent at 1050 Bonaventure Drive Elk Grove Village, IL 60007

KNOWLEDGE LEARNING CENTERS INC, c/o CT Corporation System

c/o CT Corporation System 8 S. LaSalle Street, Suite 814 Chicago, IL 60604

KC DEVELOPMENT CORP., c/o CT Corporation System 208 S. LaSalle Street, Suite 814 Chicago, IL 60604

KINDERCARE REAL ESTATE LLC. c/o CT Corporation System 208 S. LaSalle Street, Suite 814 Chicago, IL 60604

KNOWLEDGE LEARNING CENTERS INC, Any Agent at 1050 Bonaventure Drive Elk Grove Village, IL 60007

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KINDERCARE REAL ESTATE LLC. Any Agent at 1050 Bonaventure Drive Elk Grove Village, IL 60007

KINDERCARE LLC 1050 Bonaventure Drive Elk Grove Village, IL 60007

MS. KATHERINE DOE C/O KINDERCARE 1050 Bonaventure Drive Elk Grove Village, IL 60007 2120 - Served 2220 - Not Served 2320 - Served By Mail

2121 - Served 2221 - Not Served 2321 - Served By Mail

SUMMO	Served By Publication DNS	2421 - Served By Publication ALIAS - SUMMONS	CCG N001-10M-1-07-05 (
	IN COUNT	THE CIRCUIT COURT OF CO	OK COUNTY, ILLINOIS DIVISION
(1	Name all parties)		
ALLYS	ON ALBRECHT, IND	DIVIDUALLY & AS MOTHER	
		v.	No
ING CE	NTERS,INC.KC DEV	ORP., KNOWLEDGE LEARN ELOPMENT CORP., KINDER KINDERCARE AND	ALL DEFENDANTS ON ATTACHED
MS. KA	ATHERINE DOE	•	SERVICE LIST
		SUMMONS	S
To each D	Defendant:		
You hereto atta following	ached, or otherwise file	D and required to file an answer your appearance, and pay the req	er to the complaint in this case, a copy of which is uired fee, in the Office of the Clerk of this Court at the
	Richard J. Daley Cen	ter, 50 W. Washington, Room	, Chicago, Illinois 60602
	District 2 - Skokie 5600 Old Orchard Rd. Skokie, IL 60077	District 3 - Rolling Mo 2121 Euclid Rolling Meadows, IL	1500 Maybrook Ave.
0	District 5 - Bridgeview 10220 S. 76th Ave. Bridgeview, IL 60455	District 6 - Markham 16501 S. Kedzie Pkwy Markham, IL 60426	- A-1
IF YOU F	file within 30 days after AIL TO DO SO, A JU TED IN THE COMPL	service of this Summons, not cou DGMENT BY DEFAULT MAY AINT.	- ·
To the offic	cer:		
endorseme	nt of service and fees,	returned by the officer or oth if any, immediately after servion mmons may not be served later th	er person to whom it was given for service, with ce. If service cannot be made, this Summons shall an 30 days after its date.
4	50230	,	WITNESS,
Atty. No.:	SEPH G. KLEST		3 20 7 10
	PLAINTIFFS		
-	701 E. WOODFIELD	ROAD, SUITE 909	Clerk of Court
_	zip: SCHAUMBURG,	······································	Date of service:
_	847-969-9510		(To be inserted by officer on copy left with defendant or other person)
_		n will be accepted at:	. ,
•			(Area Code) (Facsimile Telephone Number)

DOROTHY BROWN, CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS

STATE OF ILLINOIS	
COUNTY OF COOK	;

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS LAW DIVISION

ALLYSON ALBRECHT, individually and as mother and best friend of RORY-MORRIS MARTIN ALBRECHT, a minor,))
Plaintiff,	,
vs.	No.
KNOWLEDGE LEARNING CORP,) KNOWLEDGE LEARNING CENTERS,) INC, KC DEVELOPMENT CORP.,) KINDERCARE REAL ESTATE CORP.,) KINDERCARE REAL ESTATE LLC.,) KINDERCARE AND MS. KATHERINE) DOE	
Defendants.)	

SERVICE LIST

KNOWLEDGE LEARNING CORP, c/o CT Corporation System 208 S. LaSalle Street, Suite 814 Chicago, IL 60604

KNOWLEDGE LEARNING CENTERS INC,

c/o CT Corporation System 8 S. LaSalle Street, Suite 814 Chicago, IL 60604

KC DEVELOPMENT CORP., c/o CT Corporation System 208 S. LaSalle Street, Suite 814 Chicago, IL 60604

KINDERCARE REAL ESTATE LLC. c/o CT Corporation System 208 S. LaSalle Street, Suite 814 Chicago, IL 60604

KNOWLEDGE LEARNING CORP, Any Agent at 1050 Bonaventure Drive Elk Grove Village, IL 60007

KNOWLEDGE LEARNING CENTERS INC, Any Agent at 1050 Bonaventure Drive Elk Grove Village, IL 60007

KC DEVELOPMENT CORP., Any Agent at 1050 Bonaventure Drive Elk Grove Village, IL 60007

KINDERCARE REAL ESTATE LLC. Any Agent at 1050 Bonaventure Drive Elk Grove Village, IL 60007

KINDERCARE LLC 1050 Bonaventure Drive Elk Grove Village, IL 60007

MS. KATHERINE DOE C/O KINDERCARE 1050 Bonaventure Drive Elk Grove Village, IL 60007